

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EUR-12 OMB-01 /093 W

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R 061020Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5125

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USUN NEW YORK 1991

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 5030

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, KN, KS

SUBJECT: GOI TURNS DOWN ROK VISIT

REF: SEOUL 2414

1. THE CHARGE WAS TOLD APRIL 4 BY THE SOUTH KOREAN CHARGE THAT THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HAD TURNED DOWN THE PROPOSED VISIT BY THE MOFA ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS (REFTEL). THE INDIANS INITIALLY SAID THE PROPOSED APRIL DATE WAS INCONVENIENT, BUT WHEN THE SOUTH KOREANS INDICATED A LATER DATE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE, THE INDIANS ADVISED THAT NO DATE WOULD BE CONVENIENT. THE MEA EXPLAINED TO THE SOUTH KOREAN CHARGE THAT THE GOI HAD EARLIER TURNED DOWN A REQUEST BY THE NORTH TO SEND A DELEGATION AND THEREFORE FELT IT HAD TO REJECT THE SOUTH'S REQUEST. THE NORTH HAD ALSO REPLIED BY INDICATING A WILLINGNESS TO POSTPONE THE VISIT BUT MEA
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HAD DECLINED TO ACCEPT ANY NORTH KOREAN VISIT AT THIS

TIME.

2. COMMENT -- THE GOI CONTINUES TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MAINTAIN AN EVENHANDED POSTURE AS BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS. THE LATEST EVIDENCE OF THIS APPEARS IN THE MEA ANNUAL REPORT (1975-76) RELEASED IN DELHI APRIL 3. THE ENTRIES ON THE ROK AND THE DPRK USE VIRTUALLY THE SAME LANGUAGE TO DESCRIBE THE STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND EACH RUNS TO SIX PARAGRAPHS. IN THE ONE CASE "FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND THE DPRK CONTINUED TO GROW APACE", IN THE OTHER, "THE EXISTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE ROK CONTINUED TO GROW APACE...." THE SOUTH KOREAN CHARGE, INCIDENTALLY, DID NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY UPSET AT THE MEA'S REFUSAL TO HOST THE MOFA DELEGATION BUT INDICATED HE HAD NOT RECEIVED A REACTION YET FROM SEOUL.
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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